

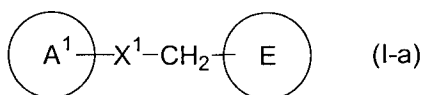
AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1-2. (Canceled)

3. (Currently Amended) A compound represented by the formula (I-a), or a salt thereof:



wherein A¹ represents a 3-pyridyl group;

X¹ represents a group represented by the formula -C(=Y¹)-NH-, wherein Y¹ represents an oxygen atom or a sulfur atom;

E represents a thienyl group;

with the proviso that A¹ optionally has 1 to 3 substituents selected from the following substituent groups a-1 and a-2, and that E has 1 or 2 substituents selected from the substituent groups a-1' and a-2';

<substituent group a-1>

substituent group a-1 represents the group consisting of: a halogen atom, a hydroxyl group, a mercapto group, a cyano group, a carboxyl group, an amino group, a carbamoyl group, a C₁₋₆ alkyl group, a C₂₋₆ alkenyl group, a C₂₋₆ alkynyl group, a C₃₋₈ cycloalkyl group, a C₆₋₁₀ aryl

group, a C₃₋₈ cycloalkyl C₁₋₆ alkyl group, a C₃₋₈ cycloalkylidene C₁₋₆ alkyl group, a C₆₋₁₀ aryl C₁₋₆ alkyl group, a C₁₋₆ alkoxy group, a C₂₋₆ alkenyloxy group, a C₂₋₆ alkynyloxy group, a C₃₋₈ cycloalkoxy group, a C₃₋₈ cycloalkyl C₁₋₆ alkoxy group, a C₆₋₁₀ aryl C₁₋₆ alkoxy group, a C₁₋₆ alkylthio group, a C₂₋₆ alkenylthio group, a C₂₋₆ alkynylthio group, a C₃₋₈ cycloalkylthio group, a C₆₋₁₀ arylthio group, a C₃₋₈ cycloalkyl C₁₋₆ alkylthio group, a C₆₋₁₀ aryl C₁₋₆ alkylthio group, a mono-C₁₋₆ alkylamino group, a mono-C₂₋₆ alkenylamino group, a mono-C₂₋₆ alkynylamino group, a mono-C₃₋₈ cycloalkylamino group, a mono-C₆₋₁₀ arylamino group, a mono-C₃₋₈ cycloalkyl C₁₋₆ alkylamino group, a mono-C₆₋₁₀ aryl C₁₋₆ alkylamino group, a di-C₁₋₆ alkylamino group, a N-C₂₋₆ alkenyl-N-C₁₋₆ alkylamino group, a N-C₂₋₆ alkynyl-N-C₁₋₆ alkylamino group, a N-C₃₋₈ cycloalkyl-N-C₁₋₆ alkylamino group, a N-C₆₋₁₀ aryl-N-C₁₋₆ alkylamino group, a N-C₃₋₈ cycloalkyl C₁₋₆ alkyl-N-C₁₋₆ alkylamino group, a N-C₆₋₁₀ aryl C₁₋₆ alkyl-N-C₁₋₆ alkylamino group, a C₁₋₆ alkylcarbonyl group, a C₁₋₆ alkoxycarbonyl group, a C₁₋₆ alkylsulfonyl group, a group represented by the formula -C(=N-R^{a1})R^{a2} (wherein R^{a1} represents a hydroxyl group or a C₁₋₆ alkoxy group; R^{a2} represents a C₁₋₆ alkyl group), and a C₆₋₁₀ aryloxy C₁₋₆ alkyl group;

<substituent group a-2>

substituent group a-2 represents the group consisting of: a C₁₋₆ alkyl group, a C₂₋₆ alkenyl group, a C₂₋₆ alkynyl group, a C₃₋₈ cycloalkyl group, a C₆₋₁₀ aryl group, a C₃₋₈ cycloalkyl C₁₋₆ alkyl group, a C₆₋₁₀ aryl C₁₋₆ alkyl group, a C₁₋₆ alkoxy group, a C₂₋₆ alkenyloxy group, a C₂₋₆ alkynyloxy group, a C₃₋₈ cycloalkoxy group, a C₃₋₈ cycloalkyl C₁₋₆ alkoxy group, a C₆₋₁₀ aryl C₁₋₆ alkoxy group, a C₁₋₆ alkylthio group, a C₂₋₆ alkenylthio group, a C₂₋₆ alkynylthio group, a C₃₋₈ cycloalkylthio group, a C₆₋₁₀ arylthio group, a C₃₋₈ cycloalkyl C₁₋₆ alkylthio group, a C₆₋₁₀ aryl C₁₋₆ alkylthio group, a mono-C₁₋₆ alkylamino group, a mono-C₂₋₆ alkenylamino group, a mono-

C₂₋₆ alkynylamino group, a mono-C₃₋₈ cycloalkylamino group, a mono-C₆₋₁₀ arylamino group, a mono-C₃₋₈ cycloalkyl C₁₋₆ alkylamino group, a mono-C₆₋₁₀ aryl C₁₋₆ alkylamino group, a di-C₁₋₆ alkylamino group, a N-C₂₋₆ alkenyl-N-C₁₋₆ alkylamino group, a N-C₂₋₆ alkynyl-N-C₁₋₆ alkylamino group, a N-C₃₋₈ cycloalkyl-N-C₁₋₆ alkylamino group, a N-C₆₋₁₀ aryl-N-C₁₋₆ alkylamino group, a N-C₃₋₈ cycloalkyl C₁₋₆ alkyl-N-C₁₋₆ alkylamino group, a N-C₆₋₁₀ aryl C₁₋₆ alkyl-N-C₁₋₆ alkylamino group, and a C₆₋₁₀ aryloxy-C₁₋₆ alkyl group;

with the proviso that each group described in the substituent group a-2 has 1 to 3 substituents selected from the following substituent group b;

<substituent group b>

substituent group b represents the group consisting of: a halogen atom, a hydroxyl group, a mercapto group, a cyano group, a carboxyl group, an amino group, a carbamoyl group, a nitro group, a C₁₋₆ alkyl group, a C₃₋₈ cycloalkyl group, a C₆₋₁₀ aryl group, a C₁₋₆ alkoxy group, a C₆₋₁₀ aryloxy group, a C₁₋₆ alkylcarbonyl group, a C₁₋₆ alkoxycarbonyl group, a C₁₋₆ alkylsulfonyl group, a trifluoromethyl group, a trifluoromethoxy group, a mono-C₁₋₆ alkylamino group, a di-C₁₋₆ alkylamino group, a mono-C₆₋₁₀ arylamino group which optionally has one amino group or aminosulfonyl group and a N-C₆₋₁₀ aryl C₁₋₆ alkyl-N-C₁₋₆ alkylamino group which optionally has one amino group;

<substituent group a-1'>

substituent group a-1' represents the group consisting of: a halogen atom, a hydroxyl group, a mercapto group, a cyano group, a carboxyl group, an amino group, a carbamoyl group, a C₁₋₆ alkyl group, a C₂₋₆ alkenyl group, a C₂₋₆ alkynyl group, a C₃₋₈ cycloalkyl group, a C₆₋₁₀ aryl group, a C₃₋₈ cycloalkyl C₁₋₆ alkyl group, a C₃₋₈ cycloalkylidene C₁₋₆ alkyl group, a C₆₋₁₀ aryl C₁₋₆

alkyl group, a C₁₋₆ alkoxy group, a C₂₋₆ alkenyloxy group, a C₂₋₆ alkynyloxy group, a C₃₋₈ cycloalkoxy group, a C₆₋₁₀ aryloxy group, a C₃₋₈ cycloalkyl C₁₋₆ alkoxy group, a C₆₋₁₀ aryl C₁₋₆ alkoxy group, a C₁₋₆ alkylthio group, a C₂₋₆ alkenylthio group, a C₂₋₆ alkynylthio group, a C₃₋₈ cycloalkylthio group, a C₆₋₁₀ arylthio group, a C₃₋₈ cycloalkyl C₁₋₆ alkylthio group, a C₆₋₁₀ aryl C₁₋₆ alkylthio group, a mono-C₁₋₆ alkylamino group, a mono-C₂₋₆ alkenylamino group, a mono-C₂₋₆ alkynylamino group, a mono-C₃₋₈ cycloalkylamino group, a mono-C₆₋₁₀ arylamino group, a mono-C₃₋₈ cycloalkyl C₁₋₆ alkylamino group, a mono-C₆₋₁₀ aryl C₁₋₆ alkylamino group, a di-C₁₋₆ alkylamino group, a N-C₂₋₆ alkenyl-N-C₁₋₆ alkylamino group, a N-C₂₋₆ alkynyl-N-C₁₋₆ alkylamino group, a N-C₃₋₈ cycloalkyl-N-C₁₋₆ alkylamino group, a N-C₆₋₁₀ aryl-N-C₁₋₆ alkylamino group, a N-C₃₋₈ cycloalkyl C₁₋₆ alkyl-N-C₁₋₆ alkylamino group, a N-C₆₋₁₀ aryl C₁₋₆ alkyl-N-C₁₋₆ alkylamino group, a C₁₋₆ alkylcarbonyl group, a C₁₋₆ alkoxycarbonyl group, a C₁₋₆ alkylsulfonyl group, a group represented by the formula -C(=N-R^{a1})R^{a2} (wherein R^{a1} represents a hydroxyl group or a C₁₋₆ alkoxy group; R^{a2} represents a C₁₋₆ alkyl group), and a C₆₋₁₀ aryloxy C₁₋₆ alkyl group;

<substituent group a-2'>

substituent group a-2' represents the group consisting of: ~~a C₁₋₆ alkyl group~~, a C₂₋₆ alkenyl group, a C₂₋₆ alkynyl group, a C₃₋₈ cycloalkyl group, a C₆₋₁₀ aryl group, a C₃₋₈ cycloalkyl C₁₋₆ alkyl group, a C₆₋₁₀ aryl C₁₋₆ alkyl group, a C₁₋₆ alkoxy group, a C₂₋₆ alkenyloxy group, a C₂₋₆ alkynyloxy group, a C₃₋₈ cycloalkoxy group, a C₆₋₁₀ aryloxy group, a C₃₋₈ cycloalkyl C₁₋₆ alkoxy group, a C₆₋₁₀ aryl C₁₋₆ alkoxy group, a C₁₋₆ alkylthio group, a C₂₋₆ alkenylthio group, a C₂₋₆ alkynylthio group, a C₃₋₈ cycloalkylthio group, a C₆₋₁₀ arylthio group, a C₃₋₈ cycloalkyl C₁₋₆ alkylthio group, a C₆₋₁₀ aryl C₁₋₆ alkylthio group, a mono-C₁₋₆ alkylamino group, a mono-C₂₋₆

alkenylamino group, a mono-C₂₋₆ alkynylamino group, a mono-C₃₋₈ cycloalkylamino group, a mono-C₆₋₁₀ arylamino group, a mono-C₃₋₈ cycloalkyl C₁₋₆ alkylamino group, a mono-C₆₋₁₀ aryl C₁₋₆ alkylamino group, a di-C₁₋₆ alkylamino group, a N-C₂₋₆ alkenyl-N-C₁₋₆ alkylamino group, a N-C₂₋₆ alkynyl-N-C₁₋₆ alkylamino group, a N-C₃₋₈ cycloalkyl-N-C₁₋₆ alkylamino group, a N-C₆₋₁₀ aryl-N-C₁₋₆ alkylamino group, a N-C₃₋₈ cycloalkyl C₁₋₆ alkyl-N-C₁₋₆ alkylamino group, a N-C₆₋₁₀ aryl C₁₋₆ alkyl-N-C₁₋₆ alkylamino group, and a C₆₋₁₀ aryloxy-C₁₋₆ alkyl group;

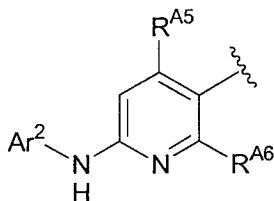
with the proviso that each group described in the substituent group a-2' has 1 to 3 substituents selected from the following substituent group b;

<substituent group b>

substituent group b represents the group consisting of: a halogen atom, a hydroxyl group, a mercapto group, a cyano group, a carboxyl group, an amino group, a carbamoyl group, a nitro group, a C₁₋₆ alkyl group, a C₃₋₈ cycloalkyl group, a C₆₋₁₀ aryl group, a C₁₋₆ alkoxy group, a C₆₋₁₀ aryloxy group, a C₁₋₆ alkylcarbonyl group, a C₁₋₆ alkoxy carbonyl group, a C₁₋₆ alkylsulfonyl group, a trifluoromethyl group, a trifluoromethoxy group, a mono-C₁₋₆ alkylamino group, a di-C₁₋₆ alkylamino group, a mono-C₆₋₁₀ arylamino group which optionally has one amino group or aminosulfonyl group and a N-C₆₋₁₀ aryl C₁₋₆ alkyl-N-C₁₋₆ alkylamino group which optionally has one amino group;

with the proviso that the following is excluded:

a compound in which A¹ represents a group represented by the formula:



wherein R^{A5} represents a hydrogen atom, a C_{1-6} alkyl group or a trifluoromethyl group; R^{A6} represents a hydrogen atom or a trifluoromethyl group; Ar^2 represents a phenyl group which optionally has a substituent; and X^1 represents a group represented by the formula $-C(=O)-NH-$.

4. **(Previously Presented)** The compound according to Claim 3, or the salt thereof, wherein A^1 represents a 3-pyridyl group, with the proviso that A^1 optionally has 1 to 3 substituents selected from the substituent group a-1 defined above.

5. **(Previously Presented)** The compound according to Claim 3, or the salt thereof, wherein A^1 represents a 3-pyridyl group, with the proviso that A^1 optionally has 1 to 3 substituents selected from the following substituent groups c-1 and c-2;

<substituent group c-1>

substituent group c-1 represents the group consisting of: a halogen atom, an amino group, a C_{1-6} alkyl group, a C_{2-6} alkenyl group, a C_{2-6} alkynyl group, a C_{3-8} cycloalkyl group, a C_{6-10} aryl group, a C_{3-8} cycloalkyl C_{1-6} alkyl group, a C_{6-10} aryl C_{1-6} alkyl group, a C_{1-6} alkoxy group, a C_{2-6} alkenyloxy group, a C_{2-6} alkynyloxy group, a C_{3-8} cycloalkyl C_{1-6} alkoxy group, a C_{6-10} aryl C_{1-6} alkoxy group, a mono- C_{1-6} alkylamino group, a mono- C_{2-6} alkenylamino group, a mono- C_{2-6} alkynylamino group, a mono- C_{3-8} cycloalkylamino group, a mono- C_{6-10} arylamino group, a mono- C_{3-8} cycloalkyl C_{1-6} alkylamino group, a mono- C_{6-10} aryl C_{1-6} alkylamino group, a C_{1-6} alkylcarbonyl group and a group represented by the formula $-C(=N-OH)R^{a2}$, wherein R^{a2} has the same meaning as defined above;

<substituent group c-2>

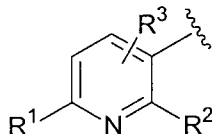
substituent group c-2 represents the group consisting of: a C₁₋₆ alkyl group, a C₂₋₆ alkenyl group, a C₂₋₆ alkynyl group, a C₃₋₈ cycloalkyl group, a C₆₋₁₀ aryl group, a C₃₋₈ cycloalkyl C₁₋₆ alkyl group, a C₆₋₁₀ aryl C₁₋₆ alkyl group, a C₁₋₆ alkoxy group, a C₂₋₆ alkenyloxy group, a C₂₋₆ alkynyloxy group, a C₃₋₈ cycloalkyl C₁₋₆ alkoxy group, C₆₋₁₀ aryl C₁₋₆ alkoxy group, a mono-C₁₋₆ alkylamino group, a mono-C₂₋₆ alkenylamino group, a mono-C₂₋₆ alkynylamino group, a mono-C₃₋₈ cycloalkylamino group, a mono-C₆₋₁₀ arylamino group, a mono-C₃₋₈ cycloalkyl C₁₋₆ alkylamino group, and a mono-C₆₋₁₀ aryl C₁₋₆ alkylamino group;

with the proviso that each group described in substituent group c-2 has 1 to 3 substituents selected from the following substituent group d;

<substituent group d>

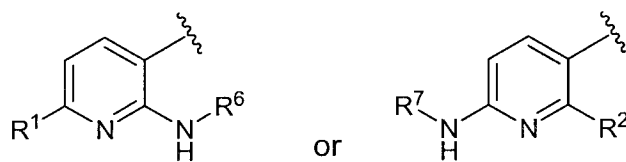
substituent group d represents the group consisting of: a halogen atom, a hydroxyl group, a carboxyl group, an amino group, a carbamoyl group, a C₁₋₆ alkoxy group, a mono-C₁₋₆ alkylamino group, a di-C₁₋₆ alkylamino group, a mono-C₆₋₁₀ arylamino group that optionally having one amino group or aminosulfonyl group, a N-C₆₋₁₀ aryl C₁₋₆ alkyl-N-C₁₋₆ alkylamino group optionally having one amino group, a cyano group, a C₆₋₁₀ aryl group, and a C₁₋₆ alkoxycarbonyl group.

6. **(Previously Presented)** The compound according to Claim 5, or the salt thereof, wherein A¹ represents a group represented by the formula:



wherein R^1 , R^2 and R^3 are the same as or different from each other and represent a substituent selected from the substituent groups c-1 and c-2 defined above.

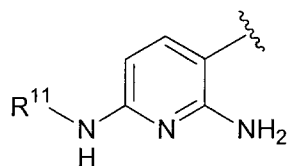
7. **(Previously Presented)** The compound according to Claim 5, or the salt thereof, wherein A^1 represents a group represented by the formula:



wherein R^1 and R^2 are the same as or different from each other and represent a substituent selected from the substituent groups c-1 and c-2 defined above; and

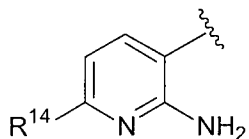
R^6 and R^7 are the same or different from each other and represent a hydrogen atom, a C_{1-6} alkyl group, a C_{3-8} cycloalkyl group or a group represented by the formula $-CHR^8-(CH_2)_{n1}-R^9$, wherein R^8 represents a hydrogen atom, a carboxyl group or a C_{1-6} alkoxy carbonyl group; R^9 represents a hydroxyl group, a carboxyl group, a carbamoyl group, a C_{3-8} cycloalkyl group, a C_{1-6} alkoxy group, a C_{1-6} alkoxy carbonyl group, a mono- C_{1-6} alkylamino group, a di- C_{1-6} alkylamino group, a phenyl group optionally having 1 to 3 substituents selected from the substituent group d defined above, a mono- C_{6-10} arylamino group optionally having one amino group or an N- C_{6-10} aryl C_{1-6} alkyl-N- C_{1-6} alkylamino group optionally having one amino group; and $n1$ represents an integer from 0 to 3.

8. **(Previously Presented)** The compound according to Claim 3, or the salt thereof, wherein A^1 represents a group represented by the formula:



wherein R¹¹ represents a hydrogen atom or a group represented by the formula -CHR¹²-(CH₂)_{n2}-R¹³, wherein R¹² represents a hydrogen atom or a carboxyl group; R¹³ represents a carboxyl group or a phenyl group optionally having 1 to 3 substituents selected from the substituent group d defined above; and n2 represents an integer from 0 to 3.

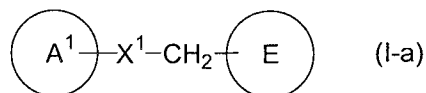
9. **(Previously Presented)** The compound according to Claim 3, or the salt thereof, wherein A¹ represents a group represented by the formula:



wherein R¹⁴ represents a C₁₋₆ alkyl group having one C₁₋₆ alkoxy group.

10-17. **(Canceled)**

18. **(Currently Amended)** A compound represented by the formula (I-a), or a salt thereof:



wherein A¹ represents a 3-pyridyl group, wherein optionally has 1 to 3 substituents selected from the following substituent groups c'-1 and c'-2;

<substituent group c'-1>

substituent group c'-1 represents the group consisting of: an amino group, a C₁₋₆ alkyl group and a mono-C₁₋₆ alkylamino group; and

<substituent group c'-2>

substituent group c'-2 represents the group consisting of: a C₁₋₆ alkyl group and a mono-C₁₋₆ alkylamino group;

with the proviso that each group described in substituent group c'-2 has 1 to 3 substituents selected from the following substituent group d';

<substituent group d'>

substituent group d' represents the group consisting of: a halogen atom, a hydroxyl group, a cyano group, a carboxyl group and a C₁₋₆ alkoxy group;

X¹ represents a group represented by the formula -C(=Y¹)-NH-;

Y¹ represents an oxygen atom or a sulfur atom;

wherein E represents a thienyl group, wherein E has 1 or 2 substituents selected from the following substituent groups e-1 and e-2;

<substituent group e-1>

substituent group e-1 represents the group consisting of: a halogen atom, a hydroxyl group, a C₁₋₆ alkyl group, a C₂₋₆ alkenyl group, a C₂₋₆ alkynyl group, a C₆₋₁₀ aryl group, a C₃₋₈ cycloalkyl C₁₋₆ alkyl group, a C₃₋₈ cycloalkylidene C₁₋₆ alkyl group, a C₆₋₁₀ aryl C₁₋₆ alkyl group, a C₁₋₆ alkoxy group, a C₂₋₆ alkenyloxy group, a C₂₋₆ alkynyloxy group, a C₆₋₁₀ aryloxy group, a C₃₋₈ cycloalkyl C₁₋₆ alkoxy group, a C₆₋₁₀ aryl C₁₋₆ alkoxy group, a C₆₋₁₀ arylthio group, a C₆₋₁₀ aryl C₁₋₆ alkylthio group, a mono-C₆₋₁₀ arylamino group, a mono-C₆₋₁₀ aryl C₁₋₆ alkylamino

group, a N-C₆₋₁₀ aryl-N-C₁₋₆ alkylamino group, a N-C₆₋₁₀ aryl C₁₋₆ alkyl-N-C₁₋₆ alkylamino group, and a C₆₋₁₀ aryloxy C₁₋₆ alkyl group;

<substituent group e-2>

substituent group e-2 represents the group consisting of: ~~a C₁₋₆ alkyl group~~, a C₂₋₆ alkenyl group, a C₂₋₆ alkynyl group, a C₆₋₁₀ aryl group, a C₃₋₈ cycloalkyl C₁₋₆ alkyl group, a C₆₋₁₀ aryl C₁₋₆ alkyl group, a C₁₋₆ alkoxy group, a C₂₋₆ alkenyloxy group, a C₂₋₆ alkynyloxy group, a C₆₋₁₀ aryloxy group, a C₃₋₈ cycloalkyl C₁₋₆ alkoxy group, a C₆₋₁₀ aryl C₁₋₆ alkoxy group, a C₆₋₁₀ arylthio group, a C₆₋₁₀ aryl C₁₋₆ alkylthio group, a mono-C₆₋₁₀ arylamino group, a mono-C₆₋₁₀ aryl C₁₋₆ alkylamino group, a N-C₆₋₁₀ aryl-N-C₁₋₆ alkylamino group, a N-C₆₋₁₀ aryl C₁₋₆ alkyl-N-C₁₋₆ alkylamino group, and a C₆₋₁₀ aryloxy C₁₋₆ alkyl group;

with the proviso that each group described in substituent group e-2 has 1 to 3 substituents selected from the following substituent group f;

<substituent group f>

substituent group f represents the group consisting of: a halogen atom, a hydroxyl group, a cyano group, an amino group, a nitro group, a C₃₋₈ cycloalkyl group, a C₁₋₆ alkoxy group, a C₆₋₁₀ aryloxy group, a C₁₋₆ alkylcarbonyl group, a C₁₋₆ alkoxy carbonyl group, a C₁₋₆ alkylsulfonyl group, a mono-C₆₋₁₀ arylamino group, a trifluoromethyl group, a trifluoromethoxy group and a C₁₋₆ alkyl group.

19. (Canceled)

20. **(Previously Presented)** The compound according to Claim 18, or the salt thereof, wherein X^I represents a group represented by the formula $-C(=O)-NH-$.

21-22. **(Canceled)**

23. **(Previously Presented)** The compound according to Claim 18, or the salt thereof, wherein E represents a thienyl group, wherein E has one substituent selected from the following substituent groups g-1 and g-2;

<substituent group g-1>

substituent group g-1 represents the group consisting of: a C_{3-8} cycloalkyl C_{1-6} alkyl group, a phenyl C_{1-6} alkyl group, a C_{1-6} alkoxy group, a phenoxy group, a C_{3-8} cycloalkyl C_{1-6} alkoxy group, a phenyl C_{1-6} alkoxy group, and a phenoxy C_{1-6} alkyl group;

<substituent group g-2>

substituent group g-2 represents the group consisting of: a C_{3-8} cycloalkyl C_{1-6} alkyl group, a phenyl C_{1-6} alkyl group, a C_{1-6} alkoxy group, a phenoxy group, a C_{3-8} cycloalkyl C_{1-6} alkoxy group, a phenyl C_{1-6} alkoxy group, and a phenoxy C_{1-6} alkyl group;

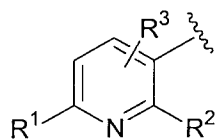
with the proviso that each group described in substituent group g-2 has 1 to 3 substituents selected from the following substituent group h;

<substituent group h>

substituent group h represents the group consisting of: a halogen atom, a hydroxyl group, a cyano group and a C_{1-6} alkyl group.

24. **(Previously Presented)** The compound according to Claim 23, or the salt thereof, wherein E represents a 2-thienyl group, wherein E has one substituent selected from the substituent groups g-1 and g-2 defined above.

25. **(Previously Presented)** The compound according to Claim 23, or the salt thereof, wherein X¹ represents a group represented by the formula -C(=O)-NH-, and A¹ represents a group represented by the formula:



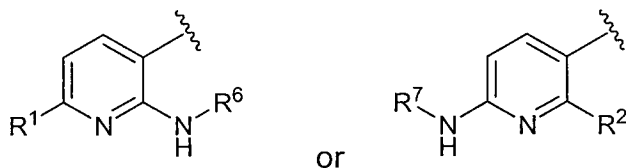
wherein R¹, R² and R³ are the same as or different from each other and represent a substituent selected from the substituent c'-1 and c'-2;

with the proviso that each group described in substituent group c'-2 has 1 to 3 substituents selected from the substituent group d';

and

E represents a 2-thienyl group, wherein E has one substituent selected from the substituent group g-1 or g-2 defined above.

26. **(Previously Presented)** The compound according to Claim 25, or the salt thereof, wherein A¹ represents a group represented by the formula:



wherein R^1 and R^2 have the same meanings as defined above; and

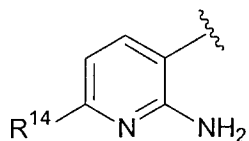
R^6 and R^7 are the same or different from each other and represent a hydrogen atom, or a C_{1-6} alkyl group which optionally has 1 to 3 substituents selected from the following substituent group d' below;

<substituent group d'>

substituent group d' represents the group consisting of: a halogen atom, a hydroxyl group, a cyano group, a carboxyl group and a C_{1-6} alkoxy group.

27. (Canceled)

28. (Previously Presented) The compound according to Claim 25, or the salt thereof, wherein A^1 represents a group represented by the formula:



R^{14} represents a C_{1-6} alkyl group having one C_{1-6} alkoxy group.

29-35. (Canceled)

36. (Previously Presented) A pharmaceutical composition comprising the compound according to Claim 3, or the salt thereof; and
a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

37. **(Canceled)**

38. **(Previously Presented)** A method for treatment of fungal infection comprising administering a pharmacologically effective amount of the compound according to Claim 3, or the salt thereof.

39-40. **(Canceled)**

41. **(Previously Presented)** A pharmaceutical composition comprising the compound according to Claim 18, or the salt thereof; and
a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.